

Lahaway Plantation, west of Lakewood, N. J., I found a small *Polistes* nest under a board with two queens attending. They had evidently constructed it together.

While the nests of *Polistes* on Staten Island and vicinity are usually placed in sheltered positions in buildings, old tin cans, cedar trees, box-bushes and like places, yet I have found them occasionally in most exposed situations. The most extraordinary situation noted was a nest built on the flat and exposed surface of a sign board at a cross-roads west of Lakewood, N. J., August 16, 1910. The nest was attached to the face of the board by a slightly curved pedicel and not protected from the weather in any way. In fact the small larvæ might have been wet by a driving rain, as the eighteen cells of which the nest was composed had only a slight downward slope. After photographing this remarkable nest, Dr. Lutz and I put it in a cyanide bottle together with two of the wasps.

NOTES ON SOME SPECIES OF THE CHRYSOMELID GENUS *ALTICA* (COLEOPTERA).

By J. R. MALLOCH, Urbana, Ill.

In October, 1918, Dr. W. C. Woods published descriptions of three species of the genus *Altica* from Maine,¹ and in examining the material in our collection to determine whether those new species were to be found here I discovered some facts that appear to be worth recording.

I found specimens of *corni* Wood in our collection from northern Illinois and Wisconsin; *ulmi* Woods from Tyngsboro, Mass., and various parts of Illinois; and *rosæ* Woods from Pennsylvania and New York. I compared the above specimens with examples sent me at my request by Dr. E. M. Patch.

The species described and recorded as *torquata* Leconte by Dr. Woods is undoubtedly not that species. The former is represented in the Bolter collection here by a specimen from Nantucket

¹ Bull. 273, Me. Agr. Exper. Sta.

Island, Mass., which agrees in all respects with those submitted by Dr. Patch. I have here three specimens which are probably the true *torquata*, which was described from Kansas. These specimens were taken in western Kansas by Dr. Popenoe. The fact that the Maine species feeds upon low blueberry exclusively, a plant which does not extend its range into Kansas, appears to me sufficient evidence that the eastern species is different from *torquata*. I assume therefore that we have in the blueberry species an unnamed form and propose for it the name *sylvia*.

The species I take to be the true *torquata* is much more coarsely punctured and has a much shallower transverse incision on the pronotum than *sylvia*.

There is in our collection a third species of very similar appearance from Arizona which has done duty as *carinata* Melsh., but which is almost unquestionably not that species.

We have a series of specimens labelled *subplicata* Leconte in the Bolter collection. These specimens are much less distinctly shining than *bimarginata* Say, and in my opinion represent a distinct species. The hypopygium of the male I have dissected is similar to that of *bimarginata*, but is entirely smooth both dorsally and ventrally, whereas in *bimarginata* it is transversely furrowed as in *chalybea* Illiger. Probably by rearing the two forms light would be shed on the specific identities.

VIRGINIA HETEROPTERA.

BY J. R. DE LA TORRE-BUENO, White Plains, N. Y.

A business trip took me in August of 1918 to the extreme southwest corner of Virginia. Between whites, I collected. Pulaski is at an elevation of 2,100 feet; and Gossan is a mining settlement about two miles from Monarat P. O., which in turn is 40 miles from Pulaski, and among the Blue Ridge Mountains at 2,800 feet above sea level. Of the 17 species taken, as noted further on, 9 are not recorded from Virginia by Van Duzee in his Catalogue, our most recent authoritative record. The species, arranged according to the same authority for the sake of con-